



National Museum of
Modern and Contemporary Art, Korea



Choe U-Ram. Photo by Kim SangTae. Image provided by MMCA

MMCA Hyundai Motor Series 2022: Choe U-Ram

September 2022 – February 2023

The National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Korea (MMCA) has selected **Choe U-Ram** as the artist for the exhibition **MMCA Hyundai Motor Series 2022**. Choe has garnered attention from Korean and international art scenes with his large-scale installations imbued with organic movement and unique narratives.

In partnership with Hyundai Motor Company, the **MMCA Hyundai Motor Series** aims to support a representative mid-career Korean artists through a solo exhibition each year. The 10-year project, launched in 2014, provides an opportunity for artists who have been building authentic bodies of work to produce new large-scale works. It also serves as a chance for artists to transition and develop their artistry and ultimately revitalize the Korean contemporary art scene. **Choe is the ninth artist selected for the project**, following Lee Bul (2014), Ahn Kyuchul (2015), Kimsooja (2016), IM Heung-soon (2017), CHOIJEONGHWA (2018), Park Chan-kyong (2019), Haegue Yang (2020), and MOON Kyungwon & JEON Joonho (2021).

Since the early 1990s, Choe U-Ram (b. 1970) has meticulously designed “anima-machines” that create movement and narrative. Focusing on how human desires are projected onto technological

advancement and evolution, the artist has tapped into the realms of social context, philosophy, and religion over the past 30 years, expanding the scope of his perspective to question the meaning of human existence and symbiosis.

Following his first solo exhibition in 1998, Choe became the first Korean artist to hold a solo exhibition at the Mori Art Museum in 2006. He has held numerous solo and group exhibitions around the globe, including in Korea, the United States, Australia, and Turkey; *MMCA Hyundai Motor Series 2022* marks his first solo exhibition at the MMCA.

The artist will be unveiling his newest large-scale installation *Paper Boat* (working title) in the exhibition. As he approaches his long-time themes of “humaneness” and “existence” from various perspectives, he seeks to explore the essence of current global crises, including climate change and the coronavirus pandemic.

MMCA Hyundai Motor Series 2022 will run from September 2022 to February 2023 at MMCA Seoul.

MMCA Hyundai Motor Series (2014–2024)

The *MMCA Hyundai Motor Series*, in partnership with Hyundai Motor Company, is a 10-year art project that has been organizing annual exhibitions of esteemed Korean artists since 2014.

The project aims to expand the boundaries of Korean contemporary art and provide a platform that connects leading Korean artists with a wider global audience. Each year, the MMCA selects one artist/group with a unique artistic vision to explore his/her creative process to its full potential and provides promotional support both at home and abroad. The commissioned artworks reflect the artist’s vision and aesthetics and demonstrate the currents and dynamism of Korean contemporary art.

The *MMCA Hyundai Motor Series* is noteworthy for being a successful example of partnership between the arts and the corporate sector and its contribution to the advancement of Korean art.

Notes to editors

For high-resolution images of the museum, please follow the link: [here](#)

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Choe U-Ram. Photo by Kim SangTae. Image provided by MMCA

1970 Born in Seoul

Selected solo exhibitions

- 2017 [stil laif], National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts, Taichung, Taiwan
- 2016 [stil laif], Daegu Art Museum, Daegu, Korea
- 2012 'U-Ram Choe Show', John Curtin Gallery, Perth, Australia
- 2011 'In Focus', Asia Society Museum, New York. USA
- 2010 'New Urban Species', Frist Center for the Visual Arts, Nashville, USA
- 2006 'City Energy- MAM Project004', Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan

Selected group exhibitions

- 2021 'Ephemeral Gravity', LEEUM, Seoul, Korea
 - 'WARM REVITALIZATION', Gangwon Triennale 2021', Hongcheon, Gangwondo, Korea
- 2019 'APMA, CHAPTER ONE- FROM THE APMA COLLECTION', APMA, Seoul, Korea
- 2018 Daejeon Biennale 2018 [BIO], Daejeon Museum of Art, Daejeon, Korea.
 - '2050, Brief History of the Future', National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts, Taichung, Taiwan
- 2016 'Odyssey: Navigating Nameless Seas' Singapore Art Museum, Singapore
 - 'Utopias and Heterotopias', The Wuzhen International Art Exhibition, The North Silk Factory, Wuzhen, China
- 2015 'Seoul vite vite!', Lille 3000 'Renaissance', Le Tripostal, Lille, France
- 2008 'Made Up ; Liverpool Biennial', FACT, Liverpool, UK
 - '1st Asian Art Triennial', Manchester Art Gallery, Manchester, UK
- 2006 '6th Shanghai Biennale-Hyper Design', Shanghai, China

Artworks



Urbanus Female

Scientific name : Anmopista volaticus floris Uram

metallic material, machinery, metal halide lamp, electronic device(CPU board, motor)

389(h) x 389(w) x 233(d)cm. 2006

Image provided by MMCA



Una Lumino

Scientific name : Anmopispl Avearium

cirripedia Uram

metallic material, motor, LED, CPU board,
polycarbonate

520(h) x 430(w) x 430(d)cm. 2008

Image provided by MMCA



Opertus Lunula Umbra (Hidden Shadow of Moon)

Scientific name : Anmopial Pennatus lunula Uram
aluminum, stainless steel, plastic, electronic device
(BLDC motor motion computing system)
500(h) x 490(w) x 360(d)cm. 2008
Image provided by MMCA



Custos Cavum

metallic material, resin, motor, gear, custom CPU board, LED
220(h) x 360(w) x 260(d)cm. 2011
Image provided by MMCA